(c) Governments have been implementing various conservation measures such as closed seasons, setting up of marine parks and resorting to resource enhancement measures. The Marine Fishing Regulation Acts of coastal States prohibit any destructive type of fishing and also address the issues like conservation and management of resources. Besides, awareness programmes and training of fishermen are also conducted to popularize the message of sustainable and responsible fishing. The Comprehensive Marine Fishing Policy promulgated by the Government also emphasizes the aspects of resource conservation and management.

G.M. crops

†2571. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the genetically modified seeds of number of crops are being used for production in the country;

(b) if so, the names of these seeds and the developers of these seeds;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the advantages of these seeds are being highlighted by the developers of the seeds while their negative effect are being concealed; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Bt. Cotton, developed by M/s Mahyco Monsanto Biotech (India) Ltd., M/s. J.K. Agri Seeds Ltd. and M/s. Nath Seeds, in the only Genetically Modified (GM) crop approved by Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, for commercial cultivation in the country.

(c) and (d) All GM crops are tested for bio-safety, efficacy, advantage and economic viability of the introduced trait, prior to granting permission for their release in the environment.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.